Cycle Islington meeting minutes14 October 2020

Chair: Steve K Minutes: Talia

Attending: Nick K, Eilidh M, Graham P, Chris R, Martin Worthington, Kate P, Keith M, John and Richenda H, Chris K, David L, Dirk Gerschwandtner, Kevin, Liz R, Sue M, Simon I, Christian W

Update on LTNs aka People Friendly Streets

Chris K reports that behaviour on the streets in St Peters is changing, with more people and kids out on the roads. People are starting to enjoy the changes.

Eilidh says that Canonbury West is underway, with some signage sabotage.

Martin W says that Clerkenwell LTN is underway, with opposition centred in Lloyd Baker Street and Lloyd square. People are complaining about details and appropriateness of the design. Overall happy with the idea of traffic reduction measures in general.

Kate P is concerned about the details of a future Highbury LTN because of school streets and other peculiarities of the local area. Chris K and Talia think that a plan announcement is imminent, and the plan has been iterated based on resident and councillor feedback.

Re feedback from CI and how to handle issues on which we disagree with the council proposals

Commonplace map is recommended. Council officers are paying close attention to comments posted.

Clerkenwell

Chris K notes that Clerkenwell Road changes have not yet been announced by Mayor/TfL

Route 38

Steve K is happy to note that route 38 has gone in on Liverpool Road, Nick K fist-pumps. Graham P, Steve K, John H, Chris K and Simon I note specific problems along the route and the general timidness of the implementation, need for more wands or bollards. Lots of cyclists choosing not to use the lane due to narrowness. Chris K cycled the lane with a 12yo and found it overall safe, with concerns about car parking, pedestrian sight lines and other detail.

Cycle Buddies

Steve K wonders how people feel about progress on the Cycle Buddy scheme and how best to progress it for people wanting to take longer journeys. Martin has found that taking people once down an unfamiliar route is enough to build their confidence. Chris R notes that many people need some basic skills, using gears properly etc. at intersections. Keith reminds us that people who need basic cycle skills should get Bikeability training from the council.

Sarah Berry

Sarah joins from Lambeth, she’s a convert to LTNs and ‘fell in love’ with cycling after the changes in her area (Railton LTN) made it a possibility for her. She’s talking about promoting and supporting LTNs.

1- Showing support: help people to love their LTN and who support it.

2 -Sharing information. Lambeth hasn’t been great about comms on LTN, so plugging the gap with factual information was an important task

* Stepping in where the council has no capacity - e.g. to publish highlights of the Equalities Impact Assessment
* profile local businesses and showcase what’s on offer in the area for residents
* Read and adapt academic and other research for easy consumption by the public, on SM etc.
* The pace of change because of Covid means segments of the public are unprepared and need to be communicated to with care and thought.
* Ongoing issues with signage. Official signage is insufficient and not useful for drivers. Community signage much more popular, especially when designed by kids.

3 - Celebrating community. Lots of antis campaigning against Railton LTN were not located in the area, so speaking directly to local people was vital to building support.

* Organisation: WhatsApp group with about 100 people, sharing resources stories and reports etc. Group of 10 coordinating.
* Working with businesses: Businesses will support whoever comes in and asks for something, so makes more sense to tie changes to benefits for their businesses and help adapt where necessary.
* “It’s our job as campaigners to show the support is there”

AoB

John H encourages everyone to leaflet their neighbouring roads, particularly when roadworks are quietening traffic in certain streets

David L reports that York way cycle lane is underway.

Technical problems meant that Keith’s minutes didn’t circulate, so minutes from September and October will be agreed at the same time in November.

Martin W posts a map to current LTNs

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1m__ZQHAQOWGRu7-IZDP-gbV8Mr6ZfMOj&ll=51.48976696101502%2C-0.08817950000000074&z=10>